



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
ALBUQUERQUE AREA OFFICE  
P.O. BOX 8327  
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87198

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
305 - Environmental  
Quality

JUN 05 1984

## Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Laguna Agency  
From: Area Director

Subject: Reclamation of the Jackpile-Paguate Mine

Confidential Claim Retracted

Authorized by: SL

Date: 6/12/13

We are replying to your memorandum of April 23, 1984. We have discussed your questions with the Field Solicitor and Bureau of Land Management personnel and feel that the response we are making represents the views of these parties as well.

As you are aware, the Bureau of Land Management is currently working on cost estimates for reclamation based on photogrammetric coverage of the mine area. Until such work is finished, we do not believe that realistic cost estimates can be established.

As you are also aware, further hydrologic work and the Environmental Impact Statement are proceeding concurrently. We feel that we must depend on such work to establish the proper level of reclamation for the mine.

Naturally, the retained sovereignty of the Pueblo allows the Pueblo of Laguna to enter into an arrangement with the Anaconda Company. However, such an arrangement would require the concurrence of the Department of the Interior. We also believe that the Department could not approve such an arrangement until the Environmental Impact Statement process has been completed. The decision to approve such an arrangement would be a major Federal action under the National Environmental Policy Act. The approval of such an arrangement by the Department would appear to make the Department the responsible party.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. William C. Allan, Area Environmental Quality Specialist, Environmental Quality Services at 505/766-3374.

*William C. Allan*  
Area Director



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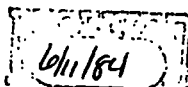
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PUEBLO OF LAGUNA  
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

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